



Balanced Literacy – Reading

Blocks of Balanced Literacy	What is the Teacher doing?	What are the Students doing with the teacher?	What are the students doing away from the teacher?	Materials
Shared Reading – Whole Group 	Shares common text; short concise pieces Models strategy Uses think-alouds of text	Actively engaged with teacher Focused on common text Think-pair-share		Over head transparencies of pages from content materials Selected segment of common text
Guided Reading Each guided group meets  20-30 min. 2-4x/wk	Hosts flexible, homogenous groups of 6 or less based on frequent assessment Lessons are strategy driven with teacher selected materials Coaches / guides toward independence	Participate in book intro by teacher Read instructionally appropriate material Articulate strategies employed Interactive discussion	Independent reading Book response prompts Working With Words Lit groups Pair-share	Appropriate-level books for groups of <6 with common strengths Appropriate-level articles, short stories...
Independent Reading	Conference with individuals Listen in on quiet oral reading Assess reading behaviors Guided reading group	Conference with teacher	Sustained focused reading Develop stamina for reading Self-select just-right text within teacher parameters to independently practice strategies	Self-selected materials within the parameters of teacher direction or unit of study

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Read Aloud	Read teacher selected text Inspire, motivate, build community, develop common knowledge Intro new genres, authors... Model fluency Occasionally provide think-aloud	Focused on reader Listening		Book that would be challenging and interesting to group
Working with Words Vocabulary Development Spelling	Introduction to new vocabulary Shared focus lesson on "typical" English phenomenon	This might be part of the writer's conference	Manipulating letters to form words Paired to pretest & test Differentiated activities to support the practice of new vocabulary & spelling	Frequently misspelled word lists Word walls Vocabulary that supports units of study